reply to Unstarred Question 709 given in Rajya Sabha on the 15th July, 1992 and state :

(a) the approximate period by which the work regarding the conversion of the Latur-Miraj narrow-gauge line in Maharashtra into broad-gauge is expected to start and the amount involved for the same; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to consider to take up this work at the earliest and the probable period when it will be taken up and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) The work is included in the action plan for gauge conversion and will be taken up in the coming years, subject to availability of resources. The cost will be about Rs. 200 crores at current prices.

Construction of an Overbridge on Solapur-Bijapur Road in Maharashtra

2509. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to construct an overbridge at KM 3.300 on Solapur-Bijapur Road in Maharashtra and at Kambar Talao on KM 2.700 on National Highway No. 13 in order to serve the public of that area efficiently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the work is progressing; and

(c) the expected time of completion of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Proposal of State Government for widening the existing road overbridge at Kambar Talab on Solapur-Bijapur National Highway No. 13 has been approved. Presently, there is no other proposal for road overbridge on this Highway at Solapur.

(c) The work is likely to take 3 to 4 years for completion after the State Government completes all the formalities

New Railway lines between Solapur and Malkapur in Maharashtra

2510. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering sanction of a new railway line between Solapur and Malkapur in Maharashtra keeping in view the growing population and the need for such line;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the work is progressing; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources.

Introduction of Express Train between Solapur and Bombay

2511. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal of introducing another Express train between Solapur and Bombay, as over-night express train, in order to facilitate the easy transport of passengers as well as goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the train service is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.